Journalists links with underworld

1753. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the alleged underworld links with journalists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any investigation was underway, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India. As such registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crime is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. No such case has come to the notice of the Intelligence Bureau or the Central Bureau of Investigation.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Action against LTTE and Al-Qaeda Alliance

†1754. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the September 11, incident in US, Government are aware of the fact that LTTE-Laden alliance may cause devastation in India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that alliance between LTTE and Al-Qaeda may have its reflection on South East Asia as per the intelligence sources; and

(c) if the answers to part (a) and (b) above are in affirmative, the full details of the strict action taken by Government against such terrorist organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (b) There is no specific input to confirm links between LTTE and Al Qaeda.

(c) Does not arise.

BSF Report on terrorist activities in Jammu and Kashmir

†1755. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the report submitted by the intelligence wing of BSF to the Ministry, in the wake of the situation developed following the intensification of activities of eight terrorist organizations in the valley, after the attack on J&K legislative Assembly; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the action Government would like to take on the basis of said report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) No such report has been shared with Government by BSF.

(d) Does not arise.

Liberhan Commission

1756. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minist* of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Liberhan Commission has held on sittings in Ayodhya and Faizabad since its inception in December, 1992;

(b) whether many of the victims and eye witnesses of the riot and demolition at Ayodhya are daily wage workers; and

(c) if so, how does Government intend to facilitate the Commission's identification and interrogation of these witnesses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The subject matter does not come under the purview of the terms and references assigned to the Commission.

Audio Tapes with Liberhan Commission

1757. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Liberhan Commission of Inquiry on the demolition of the Babri Masjid has several audio tapes of speeches made at the site on 5th and 6th December, 1992; and

(b) if so, whether those who were present at the site have been asked by the Commission to confirm the genuineness of these tapes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) the Commission is a quasi-judicial/judicial body. The enquiry of the Commission is still continuing. Any comment or observation regarding evidence tendered before the Commission would impinge on its independent functioning.